PRICE

NINETY-SEVENTH YEAR.

SATURDAY, MORNING. APRIL 8, 1905.

SUMMARY OF The St. Louis Republic Saturday, April 8, 1906.

THE WEATHER. POMECAST. St. Louis and Vicinity. Fair, warmer to-day; variable winds, becoming southerly. For Missouri — Fair to-day; warmer in east and central por-tions; to-morrow fair; cooler in Feet portion. Weather Cloudy, Temperature—
Maximum, 55.3; minimum, 19.2.
Wind-North, east; maximum velocity 9 miles an hour at 7 a. m.
Precipitation—None. Humidity—
Highest, 19 per cent at 7 a. m. 12—68
Barometer—Maximum, 29.56 inches at 7 a. m. Stage of river, 17 feet 3-48
at 7 a. m. Stage of river, 17 feet 3-48

MINIATURE ALMANAC, APRIL &. Standard Time

5:36 Moon sets 9:56 6:37 Length of day 12:56 Moon Changes marter April 12 last quarter April 26 A steendary disturbance passed over the Lake

region pesterday, causing an extensive depres-nion over the West and the Northwest, will its center north of the Imbotas. Within the points east of the Missississi River, and light show fell in Wisconsin and Northern Mich

eastern States the weather was fair vesterday murning. The temperature increased in the Southern States and in nearly all sections west of the Mississippl. Indications point to a continuation of fair weather to this immediate section, with rising temperature to-day

11. Birth, Marriage and Death : MEEHAN SPEAKER

FEATURES OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.

1. Sanday Closing to Be Enforced St. Louis Banks Combine. Recount on Collectorship. Eastern War.

2. President Roosevelt's Trip. 3. Municipal Ownership in Chicago. 4. Bref-Trust Investigation.

Oll Inquiry Probable. 7. for Tax Bill Passed.

Cenr Afraid to Leave Palace. 14. Will Test Auto Law.

POREIGN.

The Czar or any of the Imperial family dare not leave the palace to attend the

review of the Horse Guards, the Emperor's own regiment. PAGE 7. Latest reports indicate that hundreds of lives were destroyed during the earthquakes in India. EASTERN WAR.

Admiral Rojestronsky's fleet is sighted north of Singapore, headed in the direction PAGE 1.

LOCAL AND SERERBAN. The Federal Grand Jury, which convenes here next Tuesday, will probably investigate charges against oil companies | dent. doing business here and in the custern part . C. E. Bryan, secretary. of Missouri.

By stopping his runs one tear a life best stary. being dragged to death. PAGE L | The American Exchange and Mechanics'

National banks are to be consolidated. PAGE I. date for Collector, leads his opponent by 164 votes, according to the official recount

of twenty-two wards. PAGE L Two wives suing for divorce were granted leave to prosecute their cases by default in the Circuit Court. PAGE 2 Daniel F. Mechan of the Twenty-first Ward was chosen as the caucus nominee for Speaker of the House of Delegates,

The Excise Commissioner and the police may enforce the Sunday-closing law against saloons to-morrow. PAGE L St. Louis autoists will test the validity of the law enforced by St. Louis County

A California professor says he furnished the ideas for the Baldwin airship, and inctitutes two suits against the acromaut,

PAGE 1

Several persons are injured in riets in Chicago streets by striking teamsters. Decisive struggle expected next week,

The victory for municipal expership in Chicago is believed to be the foretuner of a national ownership movement, with The bill to tax the rolling stock of all

n the Arkansas House. Down State members in the Illinois

Mayor-elect ligues of Chicago tells a New York and once how his city expects to have numcical ownership of street cars without costing the people a penny,

Seth Low delivers tile address at the mual receting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science at Phila-PAGE 2

Cardinals and Browns meet in the sixth of their series to-day. PAGE & High Wind wen the feature race over the Panama track at New Orleans.

PAGE 8 Waterade scored in the fourth even

Testerday's bank clearings were \$8,250 cll and tures the and the per cent. Domestic exchange one quited as follows: New York He discount Md. par asked; Chicago No discount but Tie

liscount arkelt. Circionati Dq discount bid. He liscount arkelt. Letteville 254 discount bid. 25c ung acked, New Orleans Sic discount bill. distratit asked 11.10% No. 2 red. Com closed higher at 60 bid fulr; Chilles No. 2 mixed, Oats cosed at 20% halv: 319314c No. 2 mixed.

ction was unchanged in the local muret at the for midding. MOTEMENTS OF OCEAN VESSELS.

Auckland, April 1.-Arrived (previously): \$.-

Liverpool, April I.—Arrived (fith); Palitic, Naples, April I.—Sailed (fith); Neapolitan nos. April L - Arrived (lith): (little di Mi-

o: eth. Prinz Oskar. Havre, April 1 .- Arrived: La Bretagne Sea. April 7 -Sailed oiths: Nord Amerika agen. April 1 - Satled (6th): Oscar II

IN CLOSE RACE FOR COLLECTORSHIP.



JAMES HAGERMAN JR. Whose contest for the position of Collector has become the most spectacular and

Democrats Decide Upon Representative of Twenty-First Ward as Caucus Nominee.

Republicans of the City Council Also Select Officers for Upper Branch of the Municipal Assembly.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

H. A. Forman, President. George C. Hitchcock, vice presi-

FOR HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Daniel F. Mechan, Speaker, George Otto, Speaker pro tem. Steplan A. Martin, clerk. George Leonard, assistant clerk, John Strobel, sergeant-at-arms. Dunlet A Corbett page

The House of Delegates and the City Three Democrats of the House of Delethe Twenty-second, O'Brien of the Twentieth, and Connell of the Twenty-sixth.

Sixteen of the nineteen Democrate of the House held tegether long enough to deide on Daniel F. Mechan of the Twentyfirst Ward as speaker. Among these sixtren were four of the members of the Butler circle of the last House, comprising Zimmerman, Conran, Gazzolo and

It was after 4 o'clock when Speaker Gazzolo called the Democrats together. From 2 o'clock until this time the memhers of the House were lobbying on the merits of the respective candidates. The principal fight was waged on the sergeant-

Several members of the Democratic City Central Committee were present, including railroads operating in the State is passed | Lawler Daly, Jeff Pendergast, Oil Inspec-PAGE 7. | ter Flynn and Senator Thomas E. Kinney. When the caucus adjourned Mechan an-House refuse to let the comprehensive nounced that a firm administration state civil-service bill go to third reading until had been formed and that there was little or no chance of Ed Butler or any other influence reorganizing the House after its formal opening to-day.

Early in the afternoon Delegate Fred Wiedmer of the Thirteenth Ward ansounced that he would not be a candidate or the speakership under any condition This left the contest between Mechan and O'Brien. Meehan was able to make cer-

nasembied The next disagreement centered around the clerkship. An active canvass was made by Henry L. Block, the clerk of the old House and William J. Gavigan, former assistant to the President of the Board of Public Improvements.

Senator Kinney represented Stephen A. Martin, a newspaper man, and Mechan annued the nomination of Gavigan, but at the latter's request withdrew his name. When the caucus assembled after a committee of three had walted on the rereant members of the Democratic maority and finally induced them to join the mucus, the first matter taken up was the election of the Speaker. Hussey urged that the election of a sergeant-at-arms he first considered. The request was voted down, and Hussey, O'Brien and Connell

MEEHAN GETS SIXTEEN VOTES. Meehan received the entire remaining sixteen votes for the speakership. Conran named Block for secretary and Heffernan nominated Martin Martin received ten votes and was declared the choice of the caucus. Martin's selection was regarded

as a compromise. George Otto of the Ninth Ward was chosen Speaker pro tem. Otto was prominent. mentioned as a compromise candidate for the speakership, George Leonard, who had the support of several members of the caucus for the cierkship, was chosen

Senator Kinney's representative in the Fourth Ward also proposed the name of of the channel, landing near Calais at 3 George Strobel for the position of serwon in his contest with "Boots" Brennan

PROMINENT BANKS

American Exchange to Unite With Mechanics' National-Deal Completed.

STEPHEN A. MARTIN CLERK, WALKER HILL NEW PRESIDENT.

H. P. Hilliard Will Be Vice President and L. A. Battaile Cashier-Capital \$2,000,000 With Deposits \$25,000,000.

From reliable authority it is learned that negotiations have been completed for the consolidation of the Mechanics and American Exchange National banks As soon as certain formalities have been carried out the present quarters of the American Exchange National Bank at No. 20 worth Broadway will be vamove into the Mechanics National Bank at the northeast corner of Broadway and

Locust street. Under the terms of the consolidation Waiker Hill, president of the American Exchange National, will be president of he combined institutions, which will be known as the Mechanics'-American Exchange National Bank. H. P. Hillard, vice president of the Mechanics' National. will be vice president of the combined banks, and Ephron Catlin and W. J. Kin-

sella will also be vice presidents. R. R. Hutchinson, president of the Mechanics' National, will retire from active duties, but will continue to be a member of the Board of Directors of the con solidated banks. The boards of both banks will be united to form one board. L. A. Battatle, cushier of the American Exchange National, will be eashier of the Mechanics'-American Exchange National, and it is stated that all officers of both banks will be retained.

The capitalization of the new bank will be \$2,000,000, and it will have a surplus of 25 500 000, with total deposits of \$25,000,000. The Mechanics' National now has a capital of \$2,000,000, while the American Exchange has a capital of \$200,000. It is stated that an arrangement has been made by which the united capitals shall be \$2,000,000, though the terms of the consolidation are withheld.

EVENT IN FINANCES. The consolidation of two such banks as the America's Exchange and the Mechanies' will be regarded as quite an event in the financial history of St. Louis, es pecially since the newly formed institution will continue to be under the guidance of Mr. Hill and Mr. Hilliard, both of whom have had wide banking experience and are regarded as leaders among the most progressive class of St Louis financiers. Mr. Hillfard is from Texas, where he has a wide acquaintance and wields con-

siderable influence. Mr. Hill is from Virginia, where he earned banking under one of the ablest ankers of the country. Both the Mechanics' and American Ex-

change tanks have been eminently sucemful, and it is believed that the concolidation of the two will do much to add to the fame of St. Louis as a great and substantial financial center. The American Exchange Bank, which

recently became a national hank, is captaitsed at \$500.000, has deposits of \$6.552. \$4. and surplus and undivided profits of see, at. It pays quarterly dividen is of 3 per cent and its stock, which has a book value of \$119, is quoted at \$159.

The Mechanics' National has capital of gacase, a surplus and undivided profits of \$2,512,086, and deposits of \$17,567,212. It also pays dividends of 3 per cent quarterly, and the book value of its stock is \$255. Recently heavy purchases, combined have advanced its stock to \$20. While neither Mr. Hill nor Mr. Hilliard

would admit that the consolidation has taken place, both declining to discuss the subject, it is understood that matters have progressed to a point where the actual moving by the American Exchange into the Merchanics' National will be begun in a few days, probably early next

RAILDON CROSSES CHANNEL Successful Passage From England in Three Hours.

m. yesterday, made a successful passage o'clock this morning. The balloon encountered a severe storm, but was not injured, and its three oc-cupants were in good health and spirits when they larded.

Calais, April T .- Jacques Faure's balloon

which left Folkestone, England, at 11 p.

BY 164 VOTES :

Official Recount Confirms Elec tion of Democratic Candidate to Collectorship.

RACE EXCEEDINGLY

Republicans Hopeless While Vic tor's Friends Are Wild With Joy-Twenty-Two Wards Canvassed.

point when the official canvass and compliation had been completed in twenty-two wards by the Board of Election Comre shortly after 9 o'clock last night, confirming the election of James Hagerman Jr., Democratic candidate, to

From I cotes in the lead at noon Louis Aloe had fallen 164 votes behind when the twenty-two sards had been finished, and the friends of James Hagerman Jr.

were nearly wild with joy.

The official canvass so far has shown me of the closest races for the collector ship ever known in St. Louis politics Given only 35 plurality by the police returns, James Hagerman Jr., the Democratic candidate, has men his margin wiped away, and then a new lead re-established by the recount. The collectorship, the magnet that has attracted un-usual attention to this canvass, is one of the most desirable offices in the City Hall.

The prize represents more than \$40,000 in salary and emoluments. The Collector receives a salary of \$16,000 a year, besides a certain percentage of the money that passes through his office for conversion into revenue for the maintenance of an office fund. More than \$100,000 was obtained and turned into the Treasury from this source alone by Fred Hammer, the forner Collector, Besides this, the patronage is seventy-five lucrative posit

Aloe cut down Hugerman's plurality in the first day of the canvass so that Hagerman had only a little more than 140 votes to go when the work was resumed yesterday morning. The ensuing few hours of the official compilation were of the most nemorable ever recorded in the Board of MANY KNOTTY PROBLEMS.

Rumor followed rumor, and discrepancy ollowed discrepancy as the canvass proressed, and at noon, when thirteen wards had been completed. Aloe and his Repubican friends claimed that he was in the lead by twenty-five votes. The Hagerman forces sent out a counter statement that the Democratic candidate was successful by eleven votes. Meantime the Board of Election Com-

trace of partisanship, and the members stated that their only province in the whole affair was to insure a correct and impartial canvass. It is thought, however, that the board will be called on to solve some knotty problems in returns before the official totals are given out. Several precincts evidently will need official attention before the affair is definitely set-

that the official canvass and compliation shall be completed by noon to-day, for the municipal Charter provides that the House of Delegates and the Council shall meet the first Saturday after the election. To neure this the canvass will be continued this morning at 8 o'clock. The election certificates entitling the members to scats in the Municipal Assembly will be issued

The Democratic spirits were raised to a fever heat when the Twentieth Ward was reached last night. Cheer after cheer foilowed the announcement that Hagerman had gained 290 votes in the Twentieth Ward, re-establishing his lead, which was cut down by a similar loss in the Fourth Ward. The Republicans left the City Hall last night, conceding that their last hopes had owindled to one chance in a thousand the Excise Commissioner. and that Aloe had lost the collectorship. COUNCIL EVENLY DIVIDED.

A small grain of satisfaction was left to the Republicans, however, by the fact that Julius Lesser, the only successful Democratic candidate for the Council, had lost an even 500 votes in the Twenty-first Ward. While endangering his lead to a certain extent, Lesser is still on safe ground, and from all indications the Councill will be six Republicans to six Democrats, with a balance of power in the hands of President Forman.

Even the crowd of the first day was outnumbered by the many spectators, as ountants and outside clerks in the Board of Election Commissioners' office yesterday. Breathing room was at a premium for the Election Commissioners' force, which is actually engaged in the canvass Vitally interested candidates were conspicuous, rushing from one call to another and comparing the official with the police figures.

With each precinct the closeness of the plurality added an uncertain element to the canvass, and in one or two instances wagers were laid on the result. The Republicans at the close, however, last night, were fast losing hope, and they conceded that the official figures agree practically those made in the rush of election

SENATOR BURTON A VISITOR. Says He Will Not Resign While Case Is Pending.

of Kansas arrived in St. Louis yesterday and is stopping at the Southern Hotel. He will be here several days to attend to private business affairs and to confer with his attorneys relative to his trial, which is on the May docket of the United States Senator Rurton emphatically denied the

statement, which recently appeared in papers throughout the country, to the effect that he intended resigning as Senator. "I have never thought of resigning said Senator Burton, "and had I intended or desired to do so. I should not consider it while my case is pending."

Doctor Otis Caldwell, professor of botany in the Eastern Illinois Normal School, Charleston, Bi., will lecture on "Natur-Study and Its Relation to High School Club in the auditorium of the Central High School, Monday evening.

GOVERNOR FOLK STATES POSITION ON SUNDAY CLOSING REGULATION

· REPUBLIC SPECIAL

Jefferson City, Mo., April 7.-Governor Pelk to in communication with the opolice and Encise authorities of St. Louis on the subject of the enforcement of the law regarding the closing of saloons on Sunday. The saloons of Kansas City are already under closing orders, and the regulations will be put in force in St. Louis-probably next Sunday (to-morrow) and certainly not later than Sunday, April 16, as announced in The Republic this morning. Generator Folk • to-night made the following statement:

 It is not a question of Sunday opening or Sunday closing, but a question of law. The law says that dramshops must not operate on Sunday. • ilf this is a bad law the remedy is to repeal it, not to ignore it. It may 4 · not be to the liking of some, nevertheless, it is the law. Shall the law . be observed or shall the law be broken? Good citizens, whatever their opinion on Sunday closing as an original proposition, cannot ask that
 the law be violated. "It is the law" is sufficient for the law-abiding, and . It makes no difference what the others think.

As long as I am Governor and have the power to do it, the law is go-• ing to be enforced as far as I am able to do so. That is what I promised; • ♦ that is my purpose. We are told that public sentiment in St. Louis will ♦ • not sustain the enforcement of this law. Public sentiment may think • • the law is not good, but I have too much respect for the people of St. • ♦ Louis to believe the public continent there demands that any law be ♦ violated. St. Louis is a law-abiding city, not a law-breaking city. I know ♦ ♦ that public sentiment there is in favor of the enforcement of the law. ♦ • That has already been demonstrated. But public efficials do not swear • • to support public scutiment; they do swear to support the law.

SUNDAY CLOSING ORDER MAY **GO INTO EFFECT TO-MORROW**

Governor Folk Makes Clear to Excise Commissioner and Police Officials of St. Louis That Their Duty Is to Enforce the Law as They Find It-Closing Certainly Will Not Be Deferred Longer Than April 16-Mulvihill Says He Will Carry Out Governor's Wishes and His Sworn Duty in Every Particular.

TASK OF ENFORCEMENT WILL FALL FIRST UPON THE POLICE.

ay in St. Louis under the expressed determination of Governor Folk and Excise commissioner Mulvibill to enforce the Sunday-closing law of saloons, which has been a dead letter for so long.

Governor Folk has declared that the law must be enforced, because it is a law, and in this Excise Commissioner Mulvihill is as one with the chief executive of the

State Both of them have said that as long as there is such a law on the statute books the duty of the officers sworn to the enforcement of the law is plain, regardless of any opinions to the wisdom of the law or its enforcement.

It seems probable from the Governor's statement that the resumption of Sunday closing enforcement will fall on the earliest possible date, probably to-merrow, and certainly hardly later than Sunday April 16. Primarily the burden of enforcemen

will full upon the Police Department, the penalizing for infractions of the law resting with the Excise Commissioner, whose powers under the law creating the office are autocratic. President Stewart of the Police Board could not be seen hist night, as it was

stated that he was indisposed. It is known, however, that he is in full accord with the Governor and the Excise Commissioner upon the question of the enforcement of the Sunday-closing law, and it is not anticipated that he will fail to give them the full aid of the Police De-

THE LAW. Because the law requiring saloons to lose on Sundays has never been repealed, although it has not been enforced almos since its enactment, no formal announce ment of its revival will be required.

The method of enforcing it will be for each policeman to report to his superior very saloon found open on Sunday on hi heat. These infractions of the law in turn will be reported by the Chief of Police to

The Commissioner will then cite the keepers of such dramshops reported as having been kept open on Sunday to appear before him. Revocation of the B cense is the penalty if found guilty. Chief Kiely's position relative to the enforcement of the Sunday closing law is aiready known. He has stated that he will enforce the law.

Excise Commissioner Thomas E. Mulvihill, while reiterating his positon already stated relative to Sunday closing of dram shops, would assign no date for the enforcement of the order when seen yesterday.

"I must study the law and be thoroughly familiar with ail of its provisions be fore I mangurate its enforcement," said Mr. Mulvihill last night. "And when I do enforce it I promise you that it will be no constructive enforcement which will be satisfied with an evasion of the law in the way of closed front doors, drawn blinds or quiet service to patrons.

"They must be closed, literally and actually." and Mr. Mulvihill's jaws closed with a firmness indicative of the way the warmshops would be closed under the law. He said that he hardly thought the enforcement would be effective to-morrow and declined to say whether the closing would go into effect next Sunday.

ALL OF JACKSON COUNTY TO BE "DRY" ON SUNDAY.

County Court Joins With City Police Commissioners in Making Closing Effective.

REPUBLIC SPICIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., April 7.-Hereafter Jackson County, outside of Kansas City, also will be "dry" on Sundays. The County Court instructed David Thornton. County License Inspector, to file information with the Prosecuting Attorney against any dramshop keeper who shall sell intoxicants on the Sabbath.

When the question of Sunday closing came up this morning it was found that the entire court was in favor of cineing the saloons on Sunday. The court's order will affect about twen-

ty saloons outside Kansas City and Independence Science." before the Engelmann Botanical gardens, of which there are beveral near Kansas City. These will not be per-

mitted to sell liquor on Sunday, as they

To-morrow, probably, will be a dry Sun- | run under a county license, exactly as loes a dramshop keeper.

The court's action will be a great disappointment to many who had aiready figured out that when the warm weather began they would spend a part of their Sundays at least at the near-by wine gariens, and in that way outwit the Police Commissioners, who closed the Kansus City Sunday saloons.

SAYS HE INVENTED BALDWIN AIRSHIP

California Professor Sues for neo, and the entrance of the Russian \$100,000 Dam Enjoin Exhibition of the Craft.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

San Jose, Cal., April 7.-For months rumors have been current that Captain T. S. Baldwin, famous acropaut and builder of the California Arrow, which made successful flights at the St. Louis Fair, was indebted for many ideas utilized in the construction of the airship to Professor J. J. Montgomery of Santa Clara College. The whole story of the relations between Captain Baldwin and Professor Montgomery was only made known at the filing of two sensational complaints in the Superior

Court here to-day: In both actions, Professor Montgomery is plaintiff and Captain Baldwin is lefendant, and the suits hinge upon an agreement entered into between them in April, 1904, by the terms of which Captain Baldwin was to furnish the capital.

Professor Montgomery seeks to enjoin Captain Baldwin from exhibiting the California Arrow as now constructed and to enforce an accounting of all money received from public exhibitions in accordane with the agreement.

In the other suit a judgment for \$100,000 lamages is sought to be recovered. Briefly, Professor Montgomery charges most of the Philippine group, three Raldwin with constructing an airship with deas purioined from the plaintiff.

RAILWAY BILL SIGNED BY MAYOR

Provides for Ferry Across River and Elevated Tracks to Anheuser Busch Plant.

Mayor Wells yesterday signed the Manufacturers' Railway bill, which grants a franchise to the company to erect elevated tracks leading from the river to the Anheuser-Busch plant. The bill also carries ffiwith it a franchise to operate a ferry across the river.

The bill was in both branches of the Municipal Assembly for several months and was several times amended before being passed by both bodies. Mayor Wells also signed the building

to be adhered to in construction of buildings for fire protection. CARRIAGE STRUCK BY A CAR.

code bill, which covers the requirements

Occupants Are Thrown Out, but Not Injured.

A carriage occupied by S. Dugan and wife of No. 216 North Eleventh street, and driven by John Koch Jr. of No. 2514 North Sixteenth street, was struck by a Grand avenue car at Shaw avenue yesterday afternoon and badly wrecked. None of the occupants were injured, although they were thrown into the street

Mrs. Dugan was badly frightened, but as soon as she realized that her husband had escaped injury, as well as herself, she became quiet. The carriage, which was owned by the driver's father, was dam-aged about \$50

Covernor Herrick in St. Louis

Governor Myron T. Herrick of Ohio spent yesterday in St. Louis on his way from Texas, where he went to attend the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Mrs. John M. Taylor of Columbus.

OF SINGAPORE

Forty-Seven Vessels, Believed to Be Rojestvensky's Squadron. Enter South End of China Sea.

TOGO PROBABLY IS CLOSE BY.

Was Last Reported South of Philippines, Not More Than One Thousand Miles From Location of Russians.

SEA FIGHT MAY BE IMMINENT.

Apparent Decision of Czar's Vessels to Relieve Vladivostok May Result in Naval Battle in Waters South of China.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS. Hingapore, Straks Settlement. April 8.—The British steamer Tara reports having sighted forty-seven Russian ships 130 miles north of

London, April 8 .- A dispatch from singapore to a news agency says that the British steamer Tara reports having passed forty-seven Russian vessels of One Fathom Bank, in the Straits of Malacca, at noon on Friday, steaming southward.

The two reports are confirmatory and Indicate that the Russian fleet is evidently well on its way to Vladivostok in the China Sea.

Scouting vessels from the Japanese fleet are presumably operating in close touch with the main squadron, from Formosa to the northern end of Bor-From the location of the Japanese

the Russian fleet is a distance of not more than 800 to 1,000 miles. Two days would easily bring the two with in striking distance. The Russian fleet has covered the distance from Madagascar to Singa-

squadron when last sighted south of

Minandao, to the present location of

pore between March 19 and yester-The fleet, composed of thirty warships and fourteen colliers was sighted northeast of Madagascar by a British

ship on March 19.

days ago.

The fleet noticed at that time is almost identical in number with that sighted yesterday north of Singapore.

squadron and Admiral Togo's fleet creates the possibility of a naval conflict within the next few days. The Japanese squadron was last sighted in the Celebea Sea south of the Island of Minandao, the souther-

The proximity of the Russian main

Rodjestvensky's fleet is believed to be cruising northward from Singapore, the British steamer Tara having reported sighting forty-seven Russian ships 130 miles north of that port yes-

A dispatch from Singapore to a London news agency says that a British steamer sighted forty-seven Russian ships, probably the same fleet, steaming southward through the Straits of

The Straits of Malacca lie southeast of the Mala Peninsula and the fleet to reach Singapore would be compelled to sail southward.

RUSSIAN FLEET SIGHTED OFF MADAGASCAR COAST BY STEAMER, MARCH 19.

A dispatch from Durban, Natal, March 29, sald that the British steamer Dart. from Rangoon, reported that she passed on March 19, thirty warships and fourteen olliers (probably the Russian fleets steaming eastward. 20 miles northeast of the island of Madagnacar. The fleet reported by the Tara is probably the same as the one sighted by the

NEBOGATOFF'S DIVISION OF RUSSIAN SECOND SQUADROF LEAVES PORT OF JIBUTIL

Jibutti, Gulf of Aden, March 7 .- Vice Admiral Nebogatoff's division of the Russian

LONDON EXPRESS THINKS FLEET NEAR SINGAPORE

Singapore disputch was Admiral Togo a. Nothing definite has been heard since March is from Vice Admiral Rojestvens-